

## **CLAIMS**

What is claimed is:

1. A method of providing feedback to personnel performing a given procedure, the method comprising:
  - identifying equipment that an individual is required to have for performing a procedure by configuring a sensor with the equipment, the sensor containing information to identify each respective piece of equipment it is configured with,
  - providing at least one sensor carried by an individual, the sensor configured to detect a hazardous change;
  - providing at least one sensor configured to detect at least one characteristic of an individual's physiological condition, the sensor positioned adjacent the individual during a procedure;
  - providing a scanner to an individual to permit communication with sensors, the scanner configured to send and receive signals from the sensors,
  - scanning the sensors and communicating information from the sensors to an individual when a change in any sensor is detected; and
  - communicating countermeasures available to an individual to counteract the change.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the equipment includes a garment.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the sensor on the equipment includes a smart tag.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the sensor carried by an individual includes a biosensor.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein one sensor configured to detect at least one characteristic of an individual's physiological condition includes a medical sensor.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the medical sensor includes a transmitter associated therewith.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein a change includes a change in an environment, a failure in equipment, a loss of equipment detected by a sensor, a lack of all equipment required for a procedure detected by a scan, any negative alteration of a physiological characteristic of an individual being scanned, and any combination thereof.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein countermeasures includes any item carried by an individual which at least partially counteracts a change and any information provided to an individual about a nearby location to obtain an item to at least partially counteract a change.

9. The method of claim 1, comprising displaying the identification of the pieces of equipment identified by the scanner to the individual.

10. The method of claim 1, comprising initiating an alarm in the event that the individual does not have all of the required equipment.

11. The method of claim 1, comprising associating a smart tag with the individual, the smart tag containing information identifying the individual.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein the smart tag information includes a link to a remote database having information regarding the equipment.

13. The method of claim 11, wherein the scanner accesses the remote database and displays information there from.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein the remote database is an Internet site, the scanner being an Internet accessible device.

15. The method of claim 1, wherein the equipment includes a protective device.

16. A system of providing feedback to personnel performing a given procedure, the system comprising:

- at least one sensor carried by each piece of required equipment, the sensor configured to contain information to identify the piece of equipment it is configured with;

- at least one sensor carried by an individual, the sensor configured to detect a hazard;

- at least one sensor configured to detect at least one characteristic of an individual's physiological condition, the sensor positioned adjacent an individual during a procedure;

- a scanner carried by an individual to permit communication with sensors, the scanner configured to send and receive signals from the sensors, the scanner configured to communicate information from the sensors to an individual when a change is detected, the scanner configured to communicate countermeasures available to an individual to counteract the change.

17. The system of claim 16, wherein the equipment includes a garment.

18. The system of claim 16, wherein the equipment includes a protective device.

19. The system of claim 16, wherein the sensor on the equipment includes a smart tag.

20. The system of claim 16, wherein the sensor carried by an individual includes a biosensor.

21. The system of claim 16, wherein one sensor configured to detect at least one characteristic of an individual's physiological condition includes a medical sensor.

22. The system of claim 21, wherein the medical sensor includes a transmitter associated therewith.

23. The system of claim 16, wherein a change includes a change in an environment, a failure in equipment, a loss of equipment detected by a sensor, a lack of all equipment required for a procedure detected by a scan, any negative alteration of a physiological characteristic of an individual being scanned, and any combination thereof.

24. The system of claim 16, wherein countermeasures includes any item carried by an individual which at least partially counteracts a change and any information provided to an individual about a nearby location to obtain an item to at least partially counteract a change.

25. The system of claim 16, comprising displaying the identification of the pieces of equipment identified by the scanner to the individual.

26. The system of claim 16, comprising initiating an alarm in the event that the individual does not have all of the required equipment.

27. The system of claim 16, comprising associating a smart tag with the individual, the smart tag containing information identifying the individual.

28. The system of claim 16, wherein the smart tag information includes a link to a remote database having information regarding the equipment.

29. The system of claim 28, wherein the scanner accesses the remote database and displays information therefrom.

30. The system of claim 29, wherein the remote database is an Internet site, the scanner being an Internet accessible device.